

CYMATIIDAE IREDALE, 1913 (GASTROPODA): PROPOSED
CONSERVATION UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS. Z.N.(S.) 1939

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Iredale (1913, *Nautilus* 27 : 56) proposed the family-group name CYMATIIDAE (type-genus *Cymatium* [Röding], 1798) for a group of taenioglossate gastropods previously located in the homonymous family TRITONIIDAE. The author disregarded previously established family-group names based on genera of the CYMATIIDAE, because of his conviction that a family-group name should be "based upon the oldest genus in the family".

Since the names of families are governed by chronological priority under the current Code (Article 23(d)(i)), the status of the universally accepted family-group name CYMATIIDAE needs clarification. The existence of eight prior family-group names which, according to current classification, belong to the same family as the CYMATIIDAE, presents a threat to the well-established but later family name CYMATIIDAE. An application is here made to the Commission under the terms of Article 23(d)(ii).

The prior family-group names are as follows:

- (a) RANELLINA Gray, 1854, *Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond.*, pt. 21 : 37 (type-genus *Ranella* Lamarck, 1816):
 - (i) RANELLACEA Troschel, 1863, *Geb. Schnecken* 1 : 227;
 - (ii) RANELLIDAE Gill, 1871, *Smiths. Misc. coll.* 10 : 9; Pilsbry & Lowe, 1932, *Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philad.* 84 : 121;
 - (iii) RANELLINAE Tryon, 1881, *Man. Conch.* 3 : pl. 18 (emendation of *Ranellina* Gray, 1854);
- (b) PERSONINA Gray, 1854, *Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond.*, pt. 21 : 37 (type-genus *Persona* Montfort, 1810);
- (c) SIMPULIDAE Dautzenberg, 1900, *Soc. Zool. France* 13 : 45 (type-genus *Simpulum* Mörch, 1852 (non *Simpulum* Fabricius, 1823);
- (d) LAMPUSIDAE Cossmann, 1901, *Ess. paléoc. comp.* 4 : 143 (type-genus *Lampusia* Schumacher, 1817);
- (e) SEPTIDAE Dall, 1904, *Smiths. Misc. coll.* 47 : 116; Cossman, 1906, *Ess. paléoc. comp.* 7 : 233; Suter, 1909, *Rec. Canterbury Mus.* 1 : 7; Suter, 1909, *Subant. Islas. New Zealand*, p. 22; Suter, 1913, *Man. N.Z. Moll.*, p. 302; Pilsbry & Lowe, 1932, *Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philad.* 84 : 121 (type-genus *Septa* Perry, 1810);
- (f) AQUILLIDAE Pilsbry & Vanatta, 1904, *Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philad.* 56 : 592; Schepman, 1909, *Siboga Exp.* 49b : 110 (type-genus *Aquillus* Montfort, 1810);
- (g) LOTORIIDAE Harris, 1897, *Cat. Tert. Moll. Brit. Mus.*, pt. 1 : 185; Suter in Hutton, 1904, *Ind. Faun. Nov. Zealandiae*, p. 75; Peile, 1926, *Proc. Malac Soc. Lond.* 17 : 80 (type-genus *Lotorium* Montfort, 1810);

- (h) NYCTILOCHIDAE Dall, 1912, *Nautilus* 24 : 59; Dodge, 1957, *Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist.* 113 : 170 (type-genus *Nyctilochus* Gistel, 1848).

The availability of prior family-group names did not prevent authors from adopting Iredale's CYMATIIDAE. With rare exceptions, the family-group name CYMATIIDAE has been almost universally accepted by malacologists and paleontologists, and has been used in malacological literature by the following authors:

Iredale, 1925, 1929 and 1936; Thiele, 1925 and 1929; Woodring, 1928 and 1959; Grant & Gale, 1931; Oostingh, 1931; Bayer, 1933; Ladd, 1934; Adam & Leloup, 1938; Pilsbry & Olsson, 1941; Wenz, 1941; Beets, 1941; M. Smith, 1944 and 1948; Gardner, 1945 and 1947; Allan, 1950; Kuroda & Habe, 1952; Emerson & Puffer, 1953; Olsson & Harbison, 1953; Abbott, 1954; Belletante, 1954; Demond, 1957; Clench & Turner, 1957; Keen, 1958 and 1963; Kira, 1959; Garrard, 1961; Warmke & Abbott, 1961; Clarke, 1962; Habe, 1962; Iredale & McMichael, 1962; Macpherson & Gabriel, 1962; Barnard, 1963; Emerson & Old, 1963; Jung, 1965; Fleming, 1966; Habe & Kosuge, 1966; Weaver, 1966; Rehder, 1967; Orr-Maes, 1967; Cernohorsky, 1967 and 1970; Beu, 1968 and 1970; Shuto, 1969.

The foregoing authors list, by no means complete, clearly demonstrates the dominant usage of the family-group name CYMATIIDAE in current molluscan literature.

The family-group name SIMPULIDAE Dautzenberg, 1900, should be eliminated from chronological priority considerations; the type-genus *Simpulum* is a primary homonym which invalidates the family name. The type-genera of PERSONINA, LAMPUSIDAE, AQUILLIDAE, LOTORIIDAE and NYCTILOCHIDAE are objective or subjective synonyms of chronologically prior cymatiid genera; neither the family-group names nor the nominate genera would be utilized in a generic or suprageneric arrangement of the CYMATIIDAE at the present time, with the possible exception of the PERSONINAE.

The nominate genera *Ranella* Lamarck, 1816, and *Septa* Perry, 1810, are both in current use in cymatiid literature, and the family-group name RANELLINAE Gray is treated as an available subfamily name in cymatiid classification. It should be pointed out that species of the related family BURSIDAE have been generally, but erroneously, assigned to the RANELLINAE or RANELLIDAE, but the nominate type-genus *Ranella* has proved to belong to the same family as the CYMATIIDAE (Dell & Dance, 1963, *Proc. Malac. Soc. Lond.* 35 : 159). It is desirable that the genus *Septa* Perry, which is in current use in malacological literature, be placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology. Since any name placed on that List must have the possibility of becoming a type-genus of a family (*fide* Holthuis, 1969, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 26 : 131), a suppression of the family-group name SEPTIDAE is not feasible. Although not in current use as a subfamily or tribe, the family-group name SEPTIDAE may possibly be utilized by some worker at a future date in a classification of the CYMATIIDAE.

In summary, we formally propose that the family-group name CYMATIIDAE Iredale, 1913, be given precedence over the seven prior and available family-group names listed above. We do not favour a suppression of these prior family-group taxa, on the grounds that a continued usage of RANELLINAE Gray,

1854, should be preserved in a subfamilial sense, without endangering the status of the later name CYMATIIDAE. Apart from the currently used type-genus *Septa* Perry, the other five type-genera *Persona*, *Lampusia*, *Aquillus*, *Lotorium*, and *Nyctilochus* are, at the present time, considered to be objective or subjective synonyms; the family-group names are nevertheless available, if not currently used taxa.

Therefore, in the interests of stability and universality of nomenclature, the Commission is requested:

- (1) to use its plenary powers;

to direct that the family-group name CYMATIIDAE Iredale, 1913, be given precedence over RANELLIDAE Gray, 1854 (emendation of RANELLINA Gray, 1854, by Gill, 1871), PERSONINAE Gray, 1854 (here emended), LOTORIIDAE Harris, 1897, LAMPUSIDAE Cossmann, 1901, SEPTIDAE Dall, 1904, AQUILLIDAE Pilsbry & Vanatta, 1904, and NYCTILOCHIDAE Dall, 1912, by any zoologist who considers *Ranella* Lamarck, *Persona* Montfort, *Lotorium* Montfort, *Lampusia* Schumacher, *Septa* Perry, *Aquillus* Montfort or *Nyctilochus* Gistel, to belong to the same family as *Cymatium* [Röding].

- (2) to place the following family-group names on the Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology:

- (a) CYMATIIDAE Iredale, 1913 (type-genus *Cymatium* [Röding], 1798);
- (b) RANELLINAE Gray, 1854 (emendation of RANELLINA Gray, 1854) (type-genus *Ranella* Lamarck, 1816);
- (c) SEPTIDAE Dall, 1904 (type-genus *Septa* Perry, 1810);

- (3) to place the following generic names on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology:

- (a) *Cymatium* [Röding], 1798 (gender : neuter), type-species, by subsequent designation by Dall, 1904, *Murex femorale* Linnaeus, 1758;
- (b) *Ranella* Lamarck, 1816 (gender : feminine), type-species, by subsequent monotypy by Children, 1823, *Ranella gigantea* Lamarck, 1816;
- (c) *Septa* Perry, 1810 (gender : feminine), type-species, by monotypy *Septa scarlatina* Perry, 1810;

- (4) to place the following specific names on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology:

- (a) *femorale* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the binomen *Murex femorale*;
- (b) *gigantea* Lamarck, 1816, as published in the binomen *Ranella gigantea*;
- (c) *scarlatina* Perry, 1810, as published in the binomen *Septa scarlatina*.